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Board Higher Elementary School, Kongad, Palghat taluk, South Malabar.

* 420 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the strength of the Board Higher Elementary School, Kongad, Palghat taluk, South Malabar; and

(b) whether the school has lavatory convenience?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) 625, Sir.

" (b) There is no regular lavatory in the school at present. Steps are being taken to provide the school with permanent sanitary convenience; meanwhile the headmaster has been asked to make temporary arrangements.

The President, District Board, Malabar, is being requested to look into the matter immediately."

Fleet strength of the Government Transport System, Madras.

* 421 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the number of buses now running in the City under the control of Government Transport;

(b) the number of buses to be purchased during the year 1954–55 and their total cost; and

(c) the proposals for the expansion of the Transport System and the estimated passenger accommodation?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The number of buses running in the City under the control of Government Transport as on 2nd December 1954 was 395.

" (b) Sanction has been accorded for the purchase in 1954–55 of 50 new heavy diesel buses at a total cost of Rs. 30 lakhs Out of these 50, fourteen vehicles have been put on the road up to 2nd December 1954.

" (c) There is no proposal at present for the expansion of the transport system as such. The hon. Member has apparently in view the augmentation of fleet strength. If so, sanction has been accorded for the purchase of some more new vehicles to be put on the road in 1955–56. These vehicles will ordinarily accommodate 70 passengers each."

New buses for the Government Transport System.

* 422 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state when the Government will be able to put on roads new buses in the Madras City for relieving congestion in bus traffic?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government have sanctioned the purchase during 1954–55 of 50 new heavy diesel vehicles. Out of these, fourteen buses have been put

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on the road up to 2nd December 1954. The remaining 36 new vehicles are expected to be put on the road in batches before the end of February 1955."

Andhra Gazetted Officers in service under the Madras Government.

* 423 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of Andhra Gazetted Officers in service still under the Madras Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There are forty-six Andhra Gazetted Officers still in service under this Government."

Construction of a bund for Parappavayal Thodu in Kuttoor amsam, North Malabar.

* 424 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to construct a bund for Parappavayal Thodu in Kuttoor amsam in Payyanur firka, North Malabar?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The answer is in the negative."

Government Higher Grade Training School in South Arcot district.

* 425 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of seats sanctioned for admission into Government Higher Grade Training School in South Arcot district during 1953-54 and 1954–55; and

(b) the reasons for the difference in number, if any?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) 1953–54—285; and 1954–55—165.

" (b) The number of seats in training schools in a district has to be restricted to the anticipated requirements of the district for trained hands and hence the difference."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Are the Government aware that there is a heavy rush for admission into such institutions? May I know whether the Government propose to open a new training school in the district? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We have to take into account the requirements of the district also. We should not create unemployment among trained personnel."

Bifurcation of Ponnani taluk, Malabar.

* 426 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate Ponnani taluk, Malabar; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands now?